Montana Newsletter

Montana State Library

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MONTANA NEWSLETTER

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Vol. 11 March 31, 1981 No. 8

Alma S. Jacobs, State Librarian Jo Ann Fallang, Editor

MLA - The Montana Library Association's annual conference is May 14, 15 and 16 at the Edgewater in Missoula.

STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION
APR 17 1981
MONTANA STATE LIBRARY
930 E Lyndale Ave.
Helena, Montana 59601

The conference will concentrate on three questions:

(1) Where are Montana librarians going?
(2) Where are libraries going?
(3) What's so special about Montana?

Pre-conference workshops will include sessions on microcomputers, great books discussion groups, management of the special library and updating AACR2.

MSL 1982-83 BIENNIUM BUDGET - The Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on Education has approved Montana State Library's 1982-83 biennium current level plus inflation budget, as well as three budget modifications and a healthy increase in the book budget. The budget has not been approved by the full Appropriations Committee, the House or the Senate.

The three modifications are (1) position of Coordinator of Volunteer Services (see related article, this Newsletter); (2) moving costs for relocation in new quarters; (3) funds for Montana State Library's participation in the automated bibliographic network, Washington Library Network.

The Subcommittee is looking at funding the budget from LSCA, Titles I and III, state general fund and coal severance tax. It is unknown at this time what tax relief promised by the Republican-controlled Legislature and cuts in federal programs will mean to the Library. However, revenue estimates for LSCA, Titles I and III, were inflated by about four percent by the Legislative Fiscal Analyst's Office in preparing his estimates. Montana State Library has been informed by the Office of Libraries and Learning Technology that Title I will be cut 25 percent in FY 1982.

DBPH VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR - The Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on Education has approved Montana State Library's budget modification request for the addition of the position of Coordinator of Volunteer Services, Division for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. The position had been requested in previous sessions, but had been denied. The position has the enthusiastic support of the Montana Association for the Blind.

The Coordinator will be responsible for recruiting and training volunteer readers statewide to assist in filling requests for materials not available from the Library of Congress in recorded format. The Coordinator will also be responsible for developing a collection of Montana materials, books of regional interest and Indian language materials for blind and handicapped patrons throughout the state.

The Forty-Seventh Session will be considering appropriations bills through the fourth week of April, when the 90-day Session will end.

AD HOC COMMITTEE STUDIES FEDERATION COMPOSITION - An ad hoc committee has been appointed by William Conklin, Chairman of the State Library Commission, to review the question of federation composition and delineation for the whole state. The decision to establish the committee was taken by the Commission at its December 5, 1980, meeting following an informal hearing. The hearing was requested by the Butte-Silver Bow Public Library Board because of its complaints regarding Broad Valleys Federation administration and budgeting.

Members of the ad hoc committee are Joan Evans, member of the Montana State Library Commission, Chairperson; George Mattson, architect, Bozeman; Henry McClernan, Chairman, Butte-Silver Bow Public Library Board; Mary Lee Reese, member of the Lewis & Clark Library Board, Helena; and Darlene Skari, member of the Pathfinder Federation Advisory Board. The committee met February 25, 1981, and will hold another meeting April 1, 1981, before reporting to the State Library Commission at its April meeting.

ELECTRONIC MAIL - Several libraries in western states are using electronic mail for interlibrary loan communication. In this region, TYMNET's ONTYME electronic mail service is made available through the sponsorship of PNBC. In Montana, the State Library and Montana Tech Library are using the electronic mail primarily to send interlibrary loan messages to PNBC. CLASS (California Library Authority for Systems and Services) offers ONTYME to its members as well.

Electronic mail is a potential alternative to TWX or TELEX, the telephone and the U.S. mail. A computer terminal is used to send messages to ONTYME, accessible through a TYMNET node (see related story in this Newsletter). Each message is stored in the appropriate "mailbox" of the ONTYME computer. For example, messages to PNBC from participating libraries are stored in the PNBC "mailbox". PNBC uses its computer terminal several times a day to check its mailbox and print out its messages.

Electronic mail can also be used for referral of reference questions and for sending messages and announcements to other participating libraries.

If you would like to know more about how the electronic mail is working in Montana libraries, call Darlene Staffeldt at the State Library or Jean Bishop at the Montana Tech Library. PNBC and CLASS can also provide information on the electronic mail service.

TELENET AND TYMNET NODES IN MONTANA - If you are using a computer terminal to gain access to computer data bases, you may have the opportunity to reduce telecommunications costs considerably.

In the last year TELENET and TYMNET, commercial data communications networks, have installed nodes in Montana cities. TELENET has a node in Helena (443-0000) and TYMNET has nodes in Butte (494-2998) and Billings (pending).

To find out more about these telecommunications options, you can contact TELENET (1-800-336-0437) or TYMNET (1-800-336-0149) and/or the host computer to which you want to gain access, for example, Lockheed Dialog. If you have general questions about the use of TELENET or TYMNET for particular applications, contact Beth Givens at the State Library.

RESOURCE SHARING IN MONTANA - "Resource Sharing in Montana: A Study of Interlibrary Loan and Alternatives for a Montana Union Catalog" has been completed by J. Matthews and Associates. The study suggests a means of producing a Montana union catalog of monographs by incorporating machine-readable records of the bibliographic utilities, WLN and OCLC, existing COM (computer output microfiche) catalogs and book jobbers' catalog records. It recommends that the long range development of a union catalog be an online catalog.

Matthews suggests that at least five additional libraries become members of the Washington

Library Network - the State Library, three university libraries and one additional federation headquarters library (Parmly Billings Library is now a member).

Matthews also recommends replacing the teletype (TWX) system of transmitting interlibrary loan records with a microcomputer-based system. The recommended system would reduce communications costs considerably, would transmit ILL messages at higher speeds than TWX and could be used for other applications such as computerized information retrieval.

Until such time as a union catalog is available to locate monographs in Montana libraries, Matthews suggests that a round robin be implemented to transmit ILL requests from library to library (see related story in this Newsletter).

The Matthews report has been distributed to all Montana academic and public libraries as well as to all state libraries. You may borrow it from the nearest library or from the State Library.

Contact Alene Cooper or Beth Givens at the State Library if you have questions about the study.

ROUND ROBIN - SPRING ARRIVES EARLY IN MONTANA LIBRARIES - Montana libraries have launched the Round Robin in order to locate as many interlibrary loan requests as possible instate before sending them on to the Pacific Northwest Bibliographic Center. A three-month trial run of the Round Robin (AKA "fat crow" and "turdus migratorius") began on March 2.

Libraries with TWX machines (nine in all) send interlibrary loan requests of their own and their participating libraries to the State Library daily. These requests are checked against the State Library's collection. Unfilled requests are then sent to the next Round Robin library, and on to all other locations in like manner. The final location, City-County Library of Missoula, transmits appropriate remaining requests to PNBC. Each Round Robin circuit is completed in less than 48 hours.

Participating libraries are: State Library, Montana State University and University of Montana Libraries, Great Falls Public Library, Glasgow City-County Library, Miles City Public Library, Parmly Billings Library, Bozeman Public Library and City-County Library of Missoula.

If you have questions about the Round Robin, contact Darlene Staffeldt at the State Library.

REFERENCE SKILLS WORKSHOP VIDEOCASSETTE - In March, 1979, the Reference Librarians Interest Group prepared a package on reference skills and tools, "Basic Reference Resources for Community Libraries". The workshop package contains an hour-long videocassette recorded in 3/4" format.

The State Library received several requests to make the videocassette available in ½" format. One-half inch copies on Betamax and VHS have been made and are now available from the State Library. If you wish to borrow this reference workshop package, please indicate which videocassette you need. If you request the ½" format, please specify the particular variety that you need - Betamax or VHS.

GIFT BOOKS - Montana State Library has 14 copies of To speak of love was not enough, by Dorothy Floerchinger of Conrad. They are available as gifts to requesting libraries. Write to us if you would like to have a copy of this biography of Rev. and Mrs. Daniel McCorkle, a Presbyterian minister and his wife who served the Conrad community.

AACR2 - "An introduction to the Anglo-American cataloging rules, second edition", has

been purchased by Montana State Library. The four-part videocassette (3/4"), produced by the Resources and Technical Services Division of ALA and ALA Publishing Services, is available on request. Topics covered are history and development of the rules, description, choice of access points and form of entry.

"Spotlight On"

HARLEM PUBLIC LIBRARY

On June 1, 1975, "a beautiful and sunny day which seemed made to order for this important and happy occasion", according to the HARLEM NEWS account, the new Harlem Public Library was dedicated.

The Library evolved from a project undertaken in March, 1940, by the Harlem Women's Club to secure a public library for the city. Donated materials were accepted and room was found in the Civic Center for the collection. In 1941 the City of Harlem levied two mills to operate the Library and provided quarters and utilities. Blaine County provided the librarian's salary. In 1959 the Library expanded from one room to two and the Blaine County Commissioners provided additional funding.

The county commissioners assumed the responsibility of providing total support of the Harlem Public Library in 1967 and a board of trustees was appointed to oversee its operation. The Library was totally destroyed by fire on January 30, 1968. Temporary quarters were set up while donated materials were again organized into a beginning collection. The Library was moved into quarters vacated by the Laundromat in March, 1968, until April, 1975, when the new building was completed.

The Blaine County Commissioners earmarked $49,600 of county revenue sharing funds for the new structure. The 2,100 sq. ft. building houses a collection of 9,730 volumes. Harlem Public Library has participated in the Pathfinder Federation of Libraries, headquarters Great Falls Public Library, since 1973. Dorothy Brower is librarian; Mrs. Helen Billmayer is chairman, board of trustees.

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK - National Library Week is April 5-11. The 1982 ALA theme is "America, the library has your number". It subtly promotes the library's classification system and strongly promotes the idea that no matter who you are, there's something for you at the library.

Promotional material is available from: 1981 Library Graphics, Public Information Office, American Library Association, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.

MORAL MAJORITY vs WASHINGTON STATE LIBRARY - the Moral Majority has dropped a suit against the Washington State Library following the Library's refusal to divulge the names of individuals who had checked out the film, "Achieving Sexual Maturity".

State Librarian, Roderick Swartz, reports that from the beginning the Moral Majority was informed that none of the addresses of borrowers of the film were public schools, public school districts or public school or school district offices. At that time, the Library also rejected the Moral Majority's request for release of individual's names. The State Library's position was based on its Privacy of Circulation Records policy, adopted in 1972, and on two legal theories (1) that disclosure would violate the Freedom of Speech clause of the First Amendment, and (2) that disclosure would be an unconstitutional invasion of privacy.

Swartz stated that "the release of records would have a chilling effect on the use of libraries for the purpose for which they are intended. Fear of public disclosure, particularly among those who read or view controversial or unorthodox materials, would result in deterring citizens from seeking information through their libraries."

On December 31, 1972, the Montana State Library Commission adopted its policy, Access to Circulation Records, which was published as an administrative rule on January 1, 1978, and recodified as rule No. 10.102.5203, ARM, on July 1, 1980.

SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA PROGRAM OF THE YEAR - Three U.S. school systems have been nominated for the 1981 School Library Media Program of the Year Award. They are Pulaski County Special School District, Little Rock, Arkansas; Blue Valley Unified School District, Shawnee, Kansas; and Montgomery County Public Schools, Rockville, Maryland. Each is now eligible for the top national award and a $5,000 cash prize.

The award, cosponsored by the American Association of School Librarians and the Encyclopaedia Britannica Companies, honors achievement in providing exemplary library media programs at the elementary level.

Purposes of the award are to (1) emphasize the importance of elementary school library media programs as an integral part of instruction and curriculum for quality education; (2) demonstrate the vital nature and fundamental value of exemplary school library media programs in the personal and social development of children; (3) encourage total community support for the planning of the school library media program; (4) underline the indispensable role of professional staff in providing library media services; and (5) foster citizen understanding and stimulate continued public support for school library media program growth.

AACR2 ABBREVIATIONS - The Key to abbreviations of bibliographic terms in foreign languages used in AACR2 is available for $1.50 plus postage and handling ($.75 for first item ordered, $.25 for each additional) from the University Book Center, Student Union Building, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742.

Montana State Library
930 E. Lyndale
Helena, MT 59620

2,500 copies of this publication were produced at a unit cost of $.155 per copy, for a total cost of $388.80 which includes $310.50 for printing and $77.50 for distribution.

April 15, 1981

UPDATE OF 1981 LSCA FUNDING

1981 LSCA funding is being provided by a continuing resolution which runs only through June 5, 1981 rather than through September 30, 1981 when the federal fiscal year ends. Because of this the U.S. Department of Education announced in January that it is allocating only 72 percent of the 62.5 million provided for the Library Services and Construction Act Title I and 72 percent of the 12 million provided for LSCA Title III. This has meant that the Montana State Library has been restricted to spending only $329,215 of the anticipated $457,244 allocation. $300,969 of this amount was appropriated by the 1979 State Legislature to operate the State Library. Commitments for the remaining LSCA funds were established for the statewide programs as shown in the table below. The Montana State Library Commission determined that the most urgent of the commitments was the fee for statewide membership in the Pacific Northwest Bibliographic Center. In order to pay this the Commission used $22,500 from 1981 LSCA funds, the unexpended balance of the 1980 LSCA federation grants ($39,878) and $9,185 of coal severance tax funds.

This reduction in funding amounting to $128,029 has created severe financial problems. The State Library Commission is hopeful that the 28 percent of 1981 LSCA funds will be restored, either by an extension of the continuing resolution to September 30, 1981, or the passage of an appropriation bill. When or if the funds are restored, the remaining balance of the 1980 LSCA federation grants will be paid, coal severance tax funds will be repaid to the federations and the other commitments for 1981 LSCA funds will be discharged.

1981 LSCA funds anticipated by the Montana State Library		$457,244
Allocated expenditures		
Montana State Library operation	$300,969	
PNBC membership fee	71,563	
Reimbursement to the Parmly Billings Library for the balance of Joe Matthews' consultant fee	9,733	
Grants to the U of M and MSU libraries to assist with the salaries of the ILL clerks	6,000	
Grant to the Great Falls Public Library for operation of the statewide film service (this is in addition to $10,000 paid to GFPL out of the State Library's operating budget)	10,000	
Updating of ULMS (Union List of Montana Serials)	15,000	
Montana Union Catalog	43,979	
TOTAL		$457,244

Amount of 1981 LSCA funds actually allocated to Montana State Library until June 5, 1981		$329,215
Expenditures		
Montana State Library operation	$300,969	
Partial payment to PNBC	22,500	
Grants to U of M and MSU libraries for salaries of ILL clerks	6,000	
TOTAL		$329,469

A MONTANA-BASED CAREER INFORMATION SYSTEM PROVIDES INFORMATION ABOUT EDUCATION AND CAREERS

A Montana-based computerized education and career information system can now be accessed anywhere in the State. The program is provided by Montana Learning Services, a part of the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education. The program provides current information necessary for planning education and careers.

Typically, a user would access the information through a telephone and terminal and begin answering questions about personal likes and dislikes, abilities, how much education he or she is willing to pursue, earnings expected and working conditions preferred.

The computer then provides a list of possible jobs, the qualifications needed for particular professions, a description of the education necessary to prepare for the profession, and a list of schools in Montana that provide the education, plus the cost and time of that education.

The program now provides comparable information on the educational programs offered by almost all Montana community colleges, cosmetology schools, private four-year colleges, private vocational schools, public vocational-technical schools and the University System.

The information is also available in a manual version which consists of a needle-sort card deck with printouts of the computer files. In either manual or computerized version, the system is user oriented and each user is provided with a booklet wich contains all the necessary instructions.

Montana Learning Services started in the fall of 1978 when the University System was designated by Governor Judge to receive funds under Title IV of the Higher Education Act with the purpose of planning a program which would "provide educational information, guidance counseling and referral services for all individuals, including individuals residing in rural areas." In order to make the full information accessible anywhere in the State, MLS contracted for a computerized information system which has been in use in fifteen other states and adapted it to Montana needs. Through funds provided by the Office of Public Instruction and subscription fees, MLS made the system operational state-wide at twenty sites. By spring of this year up to 5000 persons will have used the information.

DETAILS

Content: *Twenty-one questions aimed at making an occupational selection;
* 250 occupational descriptions (related to 800 DOT titles) including information on Montana licensing and almost all Montana apprenticeships;
*130 educational program descriptions (related to 500 Montana programs);
*41 Montana schools.

Updating: Once every year.

Services: MLS provides users with (a) user's handbooks, (b) implementation handbooks, (c) telephone access, and (d) training.

Availability: Available statewide through computer terminal and telephone or needle-sort card deck and printouts.

Storage: On three computers at Eastern Montana College, University of Montana and Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology. Available in print-out form for the needle-sort users.

Fees: The 1981-1982 subscription fee schedule for computerized service begins at $450.00 per year. The fee covers all costs except for the purchase, lease or loan of a terminal.

1980-1981 Users: Total of twenty: Billings Vo-Tech, Culbertson High School, Custer County District High School, Dawson Community College, Beaverhead County High School, Flathead Valley Community College, Fort Benton High School, Helena High School and Capital High School, Judith Gap High School, Kremlin-Gildford High School, Manhattan High School, Noxon High School, Scobey High School, Stevensville High School, Anaconda High School and Talent Search Coordinators at Browning, Fort Peck, Hardin and Ronan.

For more information: contact Montana Learning Services, 33 South Last Chance Gulch, Helena, Montana 59620 or call 449-4772/449-3024.